

Applicant: Thompson, David L.
Serial No.: 09/781,750

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In the Claims:

Please **CANCEL** claims 1-31 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please **ADD** the following new claims:

32. (NEW) A device to provide the controlled release of a biologically-active agent contained therein to a body, comprising:

a cap member, formed of a conductive material, preventing the agent from passing outward from the device to the body;

a first conductor electrically and mechanically coupled to the cap member; and

a second conductor electrically and mechanically isolated from the cap member, the first conductor and the second conductor forming a circuit when a voltage potential difference is generated between the first conductor and the second conductor, the voltage potential difference causing ionization of the cap member to enable the biologically-active agent to pass outward from the device to the body.

33. (NEW) The device of claim 32, wherein the conductive material forming the cap member is one of copper, gold, silver and zinc.

34. (NEW) The device of claim 32, wherein the conductive material forming the cap member is a polymer material.

35. (NEW) The device of claim 32, further comprising a control circuit coupled to the device to selectably generate the voltage potential difference between the first conductor and the second conductor.

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36. (NEW) The device of claim ⁴35, further comprising at least one electrode carried by the device to provide electrical stimulation to the body.

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37. (NEW) The device of claim ⁵36, wherein the control circuit includes processing means for coordinating the delivery of the biologically-active agent with the electrical stimulation.

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38. (NEW) The device of claim ⁴37, wherein the electrode is adapted to provide cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation, and wherein the processing means controls the delivery of the biologically-active agent prior to delivery of the cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation to reduce patient discomfort associated with the cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation.

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39. (NEW) The device of claim ¹32, further comprising at least one biological sensor carried by the device to provide a signal indicative of a physiological condition.

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40. (NEW) The device of claim ⁸39, wherein the control circuit includes processing means to control the delivery of the biologically-active agent in response to the signal indicative of the physiological condition.

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41. (NEW) A device to provide the controlled release of a biologically-active agent to a body, comprising:

an outer portion extending from a proximal assembly to a tip portion of the device and defining a plurality of ports through which the biologically-active agent is released from the device to the body;

a plurality of reservoirs containing the biologically-active agent, the plurality of reservoirs formed along the outer portion in fluid communication with the plurality of ports;

a plurality of cap members, formed of a conductive material, positioned over the plurality of reservoirs and preventing the agent from passing outward to the body from the plurality of reservoirs through the plurality of ports;

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a plurality of conductor pairs, each of the plurality of conductor pairs including a first conductor, extending from the proximal assembly to the tip portion and electrically and mechanically coupled to one reservoir of the plurality of reservoirs, and a second conductor extending from the proximal assembly to the tip portion and electrically and mechanically isolated from the one reservoir, the first conductor and the second conductor forming a circuit when a voltage potential difference is generated between the first conductor and the second conductor, the voltage potential difference causing ionization of a corresponding one of the plurality of cap members to enable the biologically-active agent to flow from the one reservoir to the body through a corresponding port of the plurality of ports.

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42. (NEW) The device of claim 41, wherein the conductive material forming the plurality of cap members is one of copper, gold, silver and zinc.

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43. (NEW) The device of claim 41, wherein the plurality of cap members are formed of a polymer material.

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44. (NEW) The device of claim 41, further comprising a control circuit coupled to the device to selectably generate the voltage potential difference between the first conductor and the second conductor.

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45. (NEW) The device of claim 44, further comprising at least one electrode carried by the device to provide electrical stimulation to the body.

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46. (NEW) The device of claim 45, wherein the control circuit includes processing means for coordinating the delivery of the biologically-active agent with the electrical stimulation.

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47. (NEW) The device of Claim 46, wherein the electrode is adapted to provide cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation, and wherein the processing means controls the delivery of the biologically-active agent prior to delivery of the cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation to reduce patient discomfort associated with the cardioversion/defibrillation stimulation.

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48. (NEW) The device of claim 47, further comprising at least one biological sensor carried by the device to provide a signal indicative of a physiological condition.

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49. (NEW) The device of claim 48, wherein the control circuit includes processing means to control the delivery of the biologically-active agent in response to the signal indicative of the physiological condition.

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50. (NEW) The device of claim 41, wherein the plurality of reservoirs include a first reservoir and a second reservoir, and the biologically-active agent corresponds to a first compound within the first reservoir and to a second compound, different from the first compound within the second reservoir.

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51. (NEW) A method of delivering a biologically-active agent to a body, comprising the steps of:

positioning a device providing the controlled release of the biologically-active along a predetermined location within the body, the device having at least one cap member, formed of a conductive material, preventing the agent from passing outward from the device to the body; and

generating a voltage potential difference between a first conductor electrically and mechanically coupled to the cap member, and a second conductor electrically and mechanically isolated from the cap member, the voltage potential difference causing ionization of the cap member to enable the biologically-active agent to pass outward from the device to the body.

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